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From Tuesday January 21. to Saturday January 25. 1723.

AT the Court at *St. James's*, the 23d of *January*, 1723.

PRESENT,

The King's moſt Excellent Majeſty in Council.

This Day his Grace Peregrine Duke of Ancaſter Lord Great Chamberlain, was by His Majeſty's Command Sworn one of the Lords of His Majeſty's moſt Honourable Privy Council, and took his Place at the Board accordingly.

His Majeſty in Council was this Day pleaſed to appoint the following Sheriffs, viz.

Wilts, Joſeph Houlton, Jun. *Eſq*;
Cardigan, David Jones, *Eſq*;
Montgomery, Walter Wareing, *of* Oldbury, in the County of Salop, *Eſq*;

Madrid, Jan. 16, *N. S.* The Catholick King, Philip the Vth, having taken a Reſolution to make an abſolute Renunciation of the Crown of Spain, in favour of his eldeſt Son the Prince of Aſturias; and to retire, with the Queen his Conſort, to St. Ildefonſo, there to devote the Remainder of his Days wholly to the Service of God and the Care of his Soul; his Majeſty ſent laſt Night to the Preſident of the Council of Caſtile his Renunciation in Form; which being this Day read in that Council, was ordered to be forthwith publiſhed throughout the Kingdom. It is as follows;

HAVING theſe Four Years conſidered, with due Reflection, and maturely, the Miſeries of this Life, through the Infirmities, Wars, and Troubles, with which God has been pleaſed to viſit me during the Twenty three Years of my Reign; and having likewiſe conſidered, that my eldeſt Son Don Lewis, Sworn Prince of Spain, is of ſufficient Age, is married, and has Capacity, Judgment, and the Qualities fit for ruling and governing juſtly and happily this Monarchy; I have determined, abſolutely to quit the Poſſeſſion and Adminiſtration of it, Renouncing the ſame, with all its Dominions, Kingdoms, and Lordſhips, in favour of the ſaid Prince Don Lewis my eldeſt Son; and to retire with the Queen, in whom I have found a ready Diſpoſition and voluntary Inclination to accompany me, to this Palace and Seat of St. Ildefonſo, Here to ſerve God diſengaged from all other Cares, to meditate on Death, and to ſeek my Salvation. This I communicate to the Council for their Information, to be notified to the proper Perſons, that my Reſolution may be made known to all. At St. Ildefonſo, this 15th of January 1724.

A Circular Letter has likewiſe been ſent, by his Majeſty's Direction, to the Perſons whom before his Renunciation he thought fit to eſtabliſh in the chief Offices of the Court and Government; that Letter is as follows;

THE King having reſolved to retire, and to withdraw himſelf abſolutely from the Government of this Monarchy, by Renouncing the Crown, with all its Dominions, Kingdoms, and Lordſhips, in favour of his eldeſt Son Don Lewis, Sworn Prince of Spain, his Majeſty Commands me to acquaint you, that his Will is, you continue to ſerve the ſaid Prince in the Employment you now poſſeſs.

Grimaldo.

Employments and Promotions which the King left ſettled at the Time of his renouncing the Crown.

The King's Houſhold.

Steward, the Duke of Eſcalona.

Maſter of the Horſe, the Duke of Arco, and the Reverſion to the Count de Santiſtevan del Puerto, on whom the Preſidentſhip of the Orders is conferred.

Butler, the Count de Altamira.

Gentlemen of the Bed-Chamber, the ſame who were ſo before.

Captains of the Life-Guards, the ſame who were ſo before.

Captain of the Company of Halbardiers, the Prince of Maſeran.

The Queen's Houſhold.

Steward, the Marqueſs de Santa Cruz, and the Reverſion to the Marqueſs de Valero, on whom the Preſidentſhip of the Indies is conferred.

Maſter of the Horſe, the Duke of Jovenazo Prince of Chelamar.

All the other Employments, of both Houſeholds, are confirmed to thoſe who ſerved before.

The Cabinet Council.

The Archbiſhop of Toledo.
The Biſhop of Pampelona, Inquiſitor General.
The Preſident of Caſtile, the Marqueſs de Miraval.
The Marqueſs de Valero.
Don Miguel Franciſco Guerra.
The Marqueſs de Lede.
The Count de Santiſtevan del Puerto.

Secretaries.

Of the Diſpatches of State and of foreign Affairs, Don John Baptiſt Orendain.

Of the Diſpatches relating to the Indies and the Marine, Don Antonio Sopenna.

The reſt confirmed in their Employments.

New Knights of the Golden Fleece.

The Duke of Mirandola.
The Duke of Medina Celi.
The Duke of Medina Sidonia.
The Duke of Arco.
The Marqueſs de Santa Cruz.
The Marqueſs de Grimaldo.
The Marqueſs de Valouze.
The Marqueſs Scotti.
Don Antonio de Arduino.

The abovementioned Cabinet Council of ſeven Perſons, being all Spaniards (except the Marqueſs de Lede, who is a Fleming,) is to have the Direction of Affairs under the new King. The Council of Caſtile has declared that King Lewis may immediately take the Government upon him, without aſſembling the Cortes, as having been already ſworn and acknowledged Prince of Spain; and his Majeſty is expected the 20th Inſtant, to take his Reſidence here, his Father remaining at St. Ildefonſo attended only by the Marqueſs de Grimaldo and the Marqueſs de Valouze, and the Queen by Donna Laura who was her Nurſe and two Ladies of her Bedchamber. The Penſion which their Catholick Majeſties have reſerved to themſelves, is 600000 Crowns a Year, making ſomething more than 100000 Piſtoles; they have alſo reſerved 150000 Crowns for each of the Infantes. On the 10th Inſtant King Philip cauſed an Edict to be publiſhed, the Preamble of which is as follows;

HAVING conſidered what was repreſented to me by the Council in their Report of the 19th of October laſt hereto annexed, and having likewiſe conſidered all that was repreſented to me at the ſame Time by the Council of the Treaſury, upon the different Points referred to them, particularly the putting into a Method on proper Conditions the Farms of the Royal Revenues, ſo as the Remedies propoſed for relieving the Poverty and Miſery which the People now labour under may be attained: And having conſidered all with the greateſt Attention, and with the ſincereſt Deſire to procure the Relief which the miſerable Condition the whole Kingdom is in, and with which I am moſt ſenſibly affected, does indiſpenſably require; well underſtanding that the Means of ſuch Relief muſt

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